INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference SMC 60539WO				FOR FURTHER AC	CTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)		
International application No. PCT/GB 03/03345				International filing date (ernational filing date (day/month/year) 0.07.2003		Priority date (day/month/year) 28.08.2002
	International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C09B47/04						
Applicant AVECIA LIMITED et al.							
1.	This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.						
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.						
	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).						
	These annexes consist of a total of 5 sheets.						
						<u></u>	
3.	This	repor	t contains Indications re	lating to the following ite	ems:		
	1	\boxtimes	Basis of the opinion				
	н		Priority				
	(1)		Non-establishment of	opinion with regard to n	ovelty, i	nventive step a	ınd industrial applicability
	IV		Lack of unity of invent	ion			
	V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement					ventive step or industrial applicability;	
	VI		Certain documents cit	ed			
	VII		Certain defects in the	international application			
	VIII		Certain observations of	on the international appl	ication		
1							
Date of submission of the demand					Date of	completion of th	is report
22.01.2004					12.11	.2004	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:					Authori	zed Officer	are Patagrap
European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465					Fritz, Teleph	M one No. +49 89 2	2399-2792

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International application No.

PCT/GB 03/03345

I.	Basis	of t	he i	repor	t
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1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

	Des	scription, Pages				
	1-3	8	as originally filed			
	Cla	ims, Numbers				
	1-2	6 ·	received on 05.08.2004 with letter of 05.08.2004			
2.	With regard to the language , all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.					
	These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:					
		the language of a tra	anslation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).			
		the language of publ	lication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).			
		the language of a tra Rule 55.2 and/or 55.	nslation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under 3).			
3.	Witl inte	With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:				
		contained in the inte	rnational application in written form.			
		filed together with th	e international application in computer readable form.			
		furnished subsequer	ntly to this Authority in written form.			
		furnished subsequer	ntly to this Authority in computer readable form.			
		The statement that to in the international a	he subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure pplication as filed has been furnished.			
		The statement that the listing has been furn	he information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence ished.			
4.	The	amendments have re	esulted in the cancellation of:			
		the description,	pages:			
		the claims,	Nos.:			
		the drawings,	sheets:			
5.		This report has been been considered to g	established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).			
		(Any replacement sh report.)	neet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this			
6.	Add	itional observations, i	f necessary:			

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1-26

1-26

1-26

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

No:

Yes: Claims

Claims

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

Claims No:

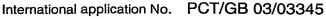
Yes: Claims

No: Claims

see separate sheet

2. Citations and explanations

Industrial applicability (IA)



EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

D3: GB-A-2 237 284 (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG) 1 May 1991 (1991-05-01) cited in the application

The present application describes phthalocyanine compounds of the general formula I (claims 1-13), methods involving the compounds I (claims 14-19,21,26), an article comprising a compound I (claim 20), an ink comprising a compound I (claims 22-24) as well as the use of a compound I as a security marker (claim 25).

The title compound according to ex. 9 of D3 is a representative of the compounds I according to the present case, however excluded by the subject-matter of the claims by a proviso.

The novelty of claims 1-26 is therefore acknowledged (Art. 33(2) PCT).

Closest prior art is D3.

The problem of the present application was to provide further metaloxyphthalocyanine compounds absorbing in the near infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum.

It is evident from the description that this problem is solved.

Example 9 of D3 refers to a compound which is a representative of the compounds I according to the present case, however D3 (cf. claim 1) teaches that "one and only one of Y and Z on each ring unit must be other than H" so that example 9 of D3 discloses a compound which is not within the subject-matter of the claims of this document.

In contrast thereto the compounds I of the present case are defined as having 8 identical non-hydrogen substituents corresponding to the groups Y and Z in the compounds (I) of D3.

Because of the teaching apparent in the claims of D3, the skilled man being aware of this document would not have considered to generalize example 9 (which would have been necessary to arrive at the compounds I of the present case).

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EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

The compounds I according to the present case are - by consequence - not obvious for the skilled man, and an inventive step in the sense of Art. 33(3) PCT is acknowledged for the subject-matter of claims 1-26.

Further objections:

The description was not adapted to the amended caims as requested by Article 6 PCT. This could be done in an eventual National / European Phase of examination.